

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant:** Seiji Kondo      **Examiner:** Unassigned  
**Serial No:** To be assigned      **Art Unit:** Unassigned  
**Filed:** Herewith      **Docket:** 17558  
**For:** DISTRIBUTION METHOD AND      **Dated:** March 25, 2004  
INFORMATION

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following reference, which is also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2001-256305, dated September 21, 2001.

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**Date of Deposit:** March 25, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

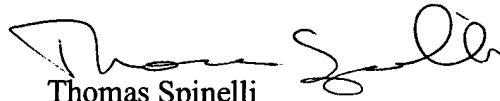
Dated: March 25, 2004

  
Thomas Spinelli

The above-cited reference was cited in an International Search Report dated January 14, 2003 received. Applicant is submitting a copy of the above-cited reference, together with a copy of the Search Report. The relevance of the above-identified reference has been described in the Search Report.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas Spinelli", written over the printed name.

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